

NSC BRIEFING

13 October 1958

TAIWAN STRAIT

- I. Peiping's Minister of National Defense, Peng Te-huai, on 12 October issued an order to : "suspend the shelling of Quemoy for another ^{two} weeks" [redacted]

25X1

25X1

1. Although pleas for Communist-Nationalist negotiations have been made by Peiping in the past week [redacted]

25X1

[redacted] in mainland-originated broadcasts, there is no indication that the Communists have had any success.

- II. Communist China's action ^{at Peiping} is apparently based on a hope that it can obtain its immediate objective--Nationalist evacuation of the Chinmens and Matsus--through negotiations in Warsaw.

PACOM review(s) completed.

25X1

III. Meanwhile, Communist China and the USSR are attempting to head off mediatory moves in the UN which might involve neutralization of Taiwan and thus prejudice Peiping's claim to sovereignty over the island.

25X1



- D. Sino-Soviet propaganda attention to Strait issue dropped off sharply just prior to suspension of bombardment--probably also intended to freeze outside diplomatic intervention while Peiping and Moscow probe US intentions.
- IV. While the cease-fire has shifted attention to the political arena, Communists continued to improve their military capabilities in Strait area:

- V. The Nationalists are also exploiting the cease-fire by moving replacement personnel to Chinmen, evacuating some civilians and mounting large scale resupply operations.
- A. Chief of MAAG made a trip to Kinmen and reports that morale is high and shell damage surprisingly small.
 - B. Maximum effort is being used to repair and strengthen positions, repair damage to roads, and resupply the Ta-Tan and Erh-Tan islands.

C. Large-scale resupply by sea is continuing without Communist opposition and with only an occasional interruption due to bad weather.

- 1. Aerial deliveries and other air activities approaching within 20 miles of mainland coast discontinued as not to provoke Communist hostility.**
- 2. 10,584 tons of supplies have been delivered to Kinmen in first 10 days of October. This amounts to almost three times the total September deliveries.**
- 3. On 11 October alone, an additional 2,560 tons were delivered.**
- 4. All available troops are being used on the beaches to unload beached LSTs. The operation apparently going well.**

25X1

Approved For Release 2006/03/17 : CIA-RDP79R00890A001000060013-6

Approved For Release 2006/03/17 : CIA-RDP79R00890A001000060013-6